

**USGS-NPS Vegetation Mapping Program**  
**Acadia National Park**

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***Pinus rigida* / *Corema conradii* Woodland**

COMMON NAME	Pitch Pine / Broom Crowberry Woodland
SYNONYM	Coastal Pitch Pine Outcrop Woodland
PHYSIOGNOMIC CLASS	Woodland (II)
PHYSIOGNOMIC SUBCLASS	Evergreen woodland (II.A)
PHYSIOGNOMIC GROUP	Temperate or subpolar needle-leaved evergreen woodland (II.A.4)
PHYSIOGNOMIC SUBGROUP	Natural/Semi-natural (II.A.4.N)
FORMATION	Rounded-crowned temperate or subpolar needle-leaved evergreen woodland (II.A.4.N.a)
ALLIANCE	PINUS RIGIDA WOODLAND ALLIANCE

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENCE LEVEL 1

USFWS WETLAND SYSTEM Terrestrial

**RANGE**

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This association occurs in a few locations within the Park, on Isle au Haut, and near Wonderland on Mount Desert Island.

***Globally***

This association is restricted to southern Maine with disjunct occurrences in eastern New York and Cape Cod, Massachusetts, and possibly in Nova Scotia.

**ENVIRONMENTAL DESCRIPTION**

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These woodlands occur on bare rock along the immediate coast and are influenced by fog. Small patches of gravelly soil, only a few cm deep, have developed over the granite substrate. What soils there are are excessively drained, with a pH of about 5.2.

***Globally***

This pitch pine woodland community occurs primarily on coastal acidic rock outcrops and rocky summits of southern Maine.

**MOST ABUNDANT SPECIES**

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<u>Stratum</u>	<u>Species</u>
Tree Canopy	<i>Pinus rigida</i> ( <i>Picea mariana</i> )
Dwarf Shrub	<i>Gaylussacia baccata</i> , <i>Corema conradii</i> , <i>Vaccinium angustifolia</i>
Herbaceous	<i>Sibbaldiopsis tridentata</i>
Non-vascular	<i>Cladina rangiferina</i>

***Globally***

<u>Stratum</u>	<u>Species</u>
Tree Canopy	<i>Pinus rigida</i>
Short Shrub	<i>Comptonia peregrina</i> , <i>Aronia arbutifolia</i> , <i>Aronia melanocarpa</i> , <i>Myrica pensylvanica</i>
Dwarf Shrub	<i>Vaccinium angustifolium</i> , <i>Gaylussacia baccata</i> , <i>Kalmia angustifolia</i> , <i>Corema conradii</i>
Herbaceous	<i>Deschampsia flexuosa</i> , <i>Danthonia spicata</i> , <i>Gaultheria procumbens</i> , <i>Melampyrum lineare</i>

**CHARACTERISTIC SPECIES**

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*Corema conradii*

***Globally***

**VEGETATION DESCRIPTION**

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Pitch pine woodlands with a variable canopy dominated by stunted *Pinus rigida* (canopy about 5 m tall) and a prominent dwarf shrub layer dominated by patches of *Gaylussacia baccata*, *Corema conradii*, and *Vaccinium angustifolium*. Herbs are very sparse; *Sibbaldiopsis tridentata* is characteristic. Patches of Cladina-type and crustose lichens cover the rock substrate, with scattered mosses including *Polytrichum piliferum*, *Leucobryum glaucum*, *Dicranum undulatum*, and *Dicranum polysetum*.

The basal area ranged from 11 m<sup>2</sup>/ha. Canopy heights were 5 m.

***Globally***

The canopy is dominated by *Pinus rigida* (*Pinus banksiana* is dominant in one northern occurrence). Associated canopy species of low cover include *Quercus rubra*, *Betula papyrifera*, *Picea rubens*, *Tsuga canadensis*, *Pinus strobus*, *Abies balsamea*, *Acer rubrum*, and occasionally *Thuja occidentalis*. A low-shrub layer is characterized by *Vaccinium angustifolium*, *Gaylussacia baccata*, *Aronia arbutifolia*, *Aronia melanocarpa*, *Myrica pensylvanica*, *Kalmia angustifolia*, *Comptonia peregrina*, *Viburnum*

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*nudum* var. *cassinoides*, and *Vaccinium pallidum*. *Corema conradii* is a characteristic dwarf-shrub. Other associated herbs and dwarf-shrubs include *Juniperus communis*, *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*, *Deschampsia flexuosa*, *Danthonia spicata*, *Gaultheria procumbens*, *Melampyrum lineare*, *Solidago puberula*, *Trientalis borealis*, *Maianthemum canadense*, *Epigaea repens*, *Sibbaldiopsis tridentata* (= *Potentilla tridentata*), and *Carex deflexa*. Lichens and mosses form a prominent bryophyte layer, and include *Cladonia stellaria* and other *Cladonia* spp., *Polytrichum piliferum*, *Polytrichum juniperinum*, *Leucobryum glaucum*, *Hylocomium splendens*, and others.

OTHER NOTEWORTHY SPECIES

CONSERVATION RANK      G2.

DATABASE CODE            C EGL006154

COMMENTS

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Documented only from Wonderland and Isle au Haut.

A variant of Pitch Pine Rocky Summit (*Pinus rigida* / *Photinia melanocarpa* / *Deschampsia flexuosa* - *Schizachyrium scoparium* Woodland) distinguished by the presence of *Corema conradii* in the dwarf shrub layer.

***Globally***

Scattered occurrences on sandy outwash deposits in Massachusetts and a single occurrence in the Shawungunk Mountains of New York may also be classified as this type.